

Structure with AI

When you get a specification sheet for an assessment, if you are permitted to use AI, this is what it will say about structuring the work:

For this assessment, you can use Generative AI to support you in structuring your submission, including creating a draft argument structure, identifying parts and headings etc.

Remember, whenever using AI tools, you must always keep a copy of your drafts, notes, and other resources from both before and after you used them. This is in case they need to be checked to see if you have used AI tools in the proper way for your assessment.

What you can do when using AI tools for structure

Ask for help in structuring the assessment

You will be allowed to use an AI tool to help you structure your assessment, but only after you have done the following:

- Created a bibliography
- Done the required reading
- Completed all research so that you can give the AI tool the correct guidance
- Thought about how you want to answer the question and the main points and arguments you want to make

Here are some examples of prompts you can put into the AI tool to help you structure your work if you are having difficulty:

“Can you please advise me on how to structure an essay?”

“Can you advise me on how to structure a PowerPoint presentation? Thank you”

“I have been asked to create/write a XXX. Can you tell me what that is and suggest what a good structure for it would be?”

(This one is useful if you are not sure about the type of assessment you have been asked to do eg a report, an evaluation, an abstract, or any other piece of work you're not familiar with)

An example of how to use AI to structure an essay and a PowerPoint presentation

The example below is for an **essay** about Athens in the classical period.

Look at the information in the boxes below for guidance on what to do, what to ask of the AI tool, and what you are likely to get back from it. Don't worry if you don't understand the content of the topic if it's not your subject, just take a careful look at how to word the prompt and the level of help you get back from the AI tool.

What is the topic?

The example is about Athens in the classical period and the title of the work to be structured is:

In your considered opinion, why is Athens considered to be the most powerful polity in the classical period?

Before you got to this stage, you will have carried out your research and decided that:

- Athens was the most powerful because of its military strength due to it having a large navy, and its economic power due to it having silver mines
- You need to define what the key term 'powerful' means in this case
- You need to provide evidence to back up your claim that yes, Athens was the most powerful polity
- All these things must now go into your prompt to the AI tool

This is what you should write as the prompt:

"My essay title is 'In your considered opinion, why is Athens considered to be the most powerful polity in the classical period?' My main points are that Athens was powerful because of its superior navy and its economic power because of its silver mines. I also want to discuss what "powerful" means in this case and explain why Athens can be considered the most powerful polity in the period. Can you suggest a good structure?"

Using an AI tool called **Claude.ai**, this is the response you get from this prompt.

Claude.ai says.....

“Here is a suggested outline for your essay:

- Introduction
 - Background on Athens and the classical period in Greece
 - Paragraph defining “powerful” in the context of ancient Greek city-states
 - Thesis statement: ‘Athens was the most powerful city-state in Greece during the classical period due to its superior naval force and economic wealth from its silver mines’
 - Body paragraph 1
 - Topic sentence on Athens having the strongest navy in Greece
 - Examples of naval power – fleet size, victories, control of trade
 - Impact of naval dominance on Athens’ influence
 - Body paragraph 2
 - Topic sentence on Athens’ wealth from silver mines
 - Details on the silver mines – location, production levels, revenue generated
 - How wealth from mines funded Athenian military and growth
 - Body paragraph 3
 - Topic sentence on how naval power and economic resources made Athens the most influential city-state
 - Ways Athens leveraged its naval and economic power for political gains
 - Athens’ cultural and intellectual achievements stemming from its power
 - Conclusion
 - Restate thesis on Athens as the most powerful Greek polity
 - Summarize key points on naval might and silver mines
 - Paragraph on why Athens can be considered the most powerful city-state in classical Greece
 - Concluding statement on Athens’ legacy and impact on history
- Let me know if you would like me to modify or expand on this outline further”

The example below is on the same topic and question, again using the AI tool **Claude.ai** but this time asking how to structure it as a **PowerPoint presentation**.

Claude.ai says.....

“Here is a suggested PowerPoint structure for your presentation on why Athens was the most powerful polity in classical Greece:
Slide 1: Title slide

- Title: "Athens: The Most Powerful Polity in Ancient Greece"
- Your name, date etc

Slide 2: Overview

- Outline the main points you will cover
1. Defining power in classical Greece
 2. Athens' superior naval force
 3. Economic power from silver mines
 4. Why Athens was the most powerful

Slide 3: Defining Power in Classical Greece

- What constituted power for Greek city-states
- Measures like military might, economic resources, cultural influence

Slide 4: Athens' Naval Dominance

- Facts about Athens' navy size, victories, control of trade
- Map showing extent of Athenian naval control

Slide 5: Silver Mines Fuelled Economic Power

- Details on Athens' silver mines
- Revenue generated and how it funded Athenian goals

Slide 6: Unrivalled Cultural Influence

- Athens' cultural and intellectual achievements
- Arts, philosophy, architecture, democracy

Slide 7: Why Athens was the Most Powerful

- Recap how naval might, economic wealth, and cultural legacy made Athens most powerful

Slide 8: Conclusion

- Summary of main points
- Restate Athens as most powerful classical Greek polity

Let me know if you would like me to modify or expand on this outline further"



Ask for structure advice at micro level

You can also ask for help in structuring a **paragraph**, not just the whole essay.

Look at the boxes below to see what to put, and the response, again using **Claude.ai**. Note how the response lists the positive aspects of the paragraph before giving some suggestions for improvement.

This is what you should write as the prompt:

“Please can you check the structure of the following paragraph?” (*Enter your paragraph*)

Claude.ai says.....

“Here is my analysis of the structure of the provided paragraph:

Topic sentence:

- Clearly establishes Athens as a powerful city-state in Ancient Greece due to its navy.

Flow and transitions:

- The frog pond analogy provides a smooth transition to explaining the importance of naval power
- “This meant...” connects the large navy to Athens’ ability to defend against rivals.
- “and” joins the ideas about Persia/Carthage and Athens having the biggest navy.

Evidence:

- Effective use of examples like Persia and Carthage as naval threats which builds the case for Athens’ naval power.

Closing sentence:

- Connects back to the main idea by showing how the navy gave Athens power over other city-states seeking protection.

Overall structure:

- Well organized with logical flow from opening topic sentences to closing sentence.
- Smooth transitions between ideas
- Strong topic focus throughout the paragraph

Suggestions:

- Consider adding more specifics or examples to demonstrate Athens’ naval power.
- The conclusion could be strengthened by elaborating on the implications of Athens’ power over other polities.

Overall, the paragraph has a clear structure and stays focused on supporting the central topic sentence. The ideas flow logically, and the evidence is relevant. Just some minor tweaks could make it even more compelling.”



What you cannot do when using AI tools for structure

Just as you would not plagiarise a book or article, so you cannot plagiarise using an AI tool by asking it to write all, or any part of your assessment for you.

The example in the box below shows you what you **must not** do when inputting a prompt into an AI tool asking for help on how to structure an essay or even just a paragraph.

Look carefully at how these prompts are asking the AI tool to actually produce the work rather than giving it what has already been researched, thought about, and/or written up:

Assessment title: *In your considered opinion, why is Athens considered to be the most powerful polity in the classical period?*

You must not input:

- Tell me why Athens was the most powerful polity in the classical period
- Write a paragraph on why Athens was powerful

Why you must not use prompts like this

- If you input these prompts, then the AI tool will basically be doing the assessment for you which is not allowed.
- If you submitted what the AI tool produced using these prompts then it is not your work and you will be committing **academic misconduct**, just as you would be if you had copied from a book or another student. This would result in severe penalties.

This is one of the reasons why you must remember to keep all drafts, notes, and resources used from both before and after you use AI tools when researching and writing up your assessment.

It may be necessary for your tutor to check them to make sure that you have not gone beyond what you are allowed to do.

THE
END